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Southern District of New York*

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**FORMER SALOMON SMITH BARNEY MANAGER PLEADS GUILTY IN U.S.  
COURT TO RECEIVING COMMERCIAL BRIBES AND TAX EVASION**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that MARIA E. SHAW, a former manager in the graphics department of Salomon Smith Barney, Inc. ("SSB"), a New York investment bank, pled guilty in Manhattan federal court yesterday to charges that she accepted commercial bribes in exchange for steering SSB printing work to a graphics firm on Long Island, and to tax evasion.

As the Superseding Information states, from about early 2000 through about August 2001, SHAW accepted kickback payments from a coconspirator in exchange for ensuring that her coconspirator's clients would receive a portion of the contracts for commercial printing and related services awarded by SSB. Further, SHAW failed to pay taxes on this illegal income.

As described in the criminal Complaint filed earlier in the case, as a manager in the graphics department of SSB, SHAW was responsible for allocating SSB's contracts for commercial printing and related services. From time to time, SSB awarded contracts for commercial printing to JB Promotional Graphics, a

firm located in Ronkonkoma, New York. In or about early 2000, the owner of JB Promotional Graphics (hereinafter the "Firm Owner") took SHAW to dinner in Manhattan. As the Complaint alleges, at the dinner SHAW stated that the amount of business received by JB Promotional Graphics from SSB could double -- from approximately \$1 million to approximately \$2 million -- if the Firm Owner agreed to kickback 5% of the total amount of business that JB Promotional Graphics received from SSB, i.e. approximately \$100,000. According to the Complaint, the Firm Owner balked at SHAW's request, indicating that he could not pay such a large amount. SHAW told the Firm Owner that he should figure out a way to pay her.

According to the Complaint, approximately six weeks later, the Firm Owner met with SHAW at her SSB office in Manhattan. SHAW told the Firm Owner that, while he mulled over the proposed kickback arrangement, in the interim he should pay "this" and SHAW handed the Firm Owner a bill for an installment of the home equity loan on her residence. Subsequently, according to the Complaint, the Firm Owner wrote a check made payable to Chase Manhattan Bank in the amount of approximately \$10,000 drawn on the account of JB Promotional Graphics and delivered the check to a Chase branch in Ronkonkoma, New York, as a payment on SHAW's home equity loan. According to the Complaint, over the next few months, SHAW gave the Firm Owner

approximately four additional bills for installments on her home equity loan. Similarly, the Firm Owner made payments on these bills using checks drawn on the account of JB Promotional Graphics.

In addition, according to the Complaint, the Firm Owner paid two bills, totaling approximately \$7,000, for Shaw's personal credit card and also paid bills for SHAW's hairdresser. According to the Complaint, the amount of business which JB Promotional Graphics received from SSB for commercial printing and related services increased during the period that the Firm Owner paid these commercial bribes to SHAW.

According to the Complaint, subsequent to the above-described events, the Firm Owner began cooperating with the FBI and has since pled guilty to charges of mail fraud, interstate travel in aid of racketeering, and bid rigging. The Firm Owner is awaiting sentencing.

In entering her plea of guilty to the Superseding Information, SHAW admitted that she participated in a conspiracy to solicit and receive commercial bribes in exchange for steering SSB printing work to the clients of her coconspirator. SHAW also admitted that she failed to report her bribe income on her federal income tax forms.

SHAW faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing is scheduled for August 18, 2005, at 9:15 a.m. before Judge MICHAEL B. MUKASEY.

SHAW, 63, resides on Staten Island, New York, according to public documents.

Mr. KELLEY praised the efforts of the FBI in the investigation of this case.

Assistant United States Attorney BRET R. WILLIAMS is in charge of the prosecution.

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